IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **TOCHISHITA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3765

Serial No.: **09/883,334**

Examiner: **Not Yet Assignd**

Filed: **June 19, 2001**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3027

For. **SURFACE-TREATING SUPPORT MEMBER, SURFACE-TREATING HOLDER, SURFACE-TREATING PROCESS, AND SURFACE TREATING APPARATUS**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 15, 2002

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached together with a European Search Report.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.
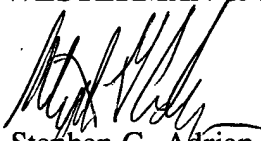
RECEIVED

OCT 21 2002

TC 1700

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee

which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this

statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

Stephen G. Adrian
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 32,878

SGA/cjp

Atty. Docket No. **991074B**
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930

23850
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449
              References (10)

Q:\FLOATERS\SGA\99\991074B\IDS Form